Technological upgradation of SSI sector

4262. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) initiatives taken by Government to provide loan to develop technology for extension and development of small industries in the country before announcing the removal of certain restrictions on imports;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any fund is earmarked for the development of small industries in the country; and

(d) if so, the initial amount and the details of utilization of funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) and (b) As per the Comprehensive Policy Package for SSI Sector announced on 30th August, 2000, the Government have launched a Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme for Technology Upgradation of the Small Scale Industries in October, 2000. The scheme provides for back ended capital subsidy to the extent of 12% in select products/'sub-sectors for known proven technologies. Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is the nodal agency for the Scheme being operationalized through Scheduled Commercial Banks/National Small Industries Corporation. An initial sum of Rs. 5 crore, as an advance, has been made available to SIDBI to commence the Scheme.

(c) and (d) SIDBI has earmarked a fund of Rs. 200 crores, which has been subsequently enhanced by an additional Rs. 100 crores under its Technology Development and Modernisation Fund (TDMF) Scheme for the development of SSIs in the country. The cumulative sanctions and disbursement under the scheme since inception upto 31st March, 2001 are Rs. 462.82 crores and Rs. 154.18 crores respectively.

Infrastructure Development Fund

4263. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to set up an Infrastructure Development Fund for Small Scale Industries in the country;